

# Project management - an additional key for successful proposals -

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## Project management (PM)

PM is the application of knowledge, skills, techniques and tools to ensure a successful project within its constraints such as time, quality, and budget.

Managing a project starts already while setting up the proposal. It is often a requirement of funding agencies to ensure efficient implementation of a project and a positive value-for-money ratio.

The needs for adequate and tailored management increase with the size and complexity of the project, but the general principles remain constant.

**PM** is an ongoing process, which affects all stages of a project such as: Planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting, execution and finalization.

## Research Support

Research Support Offices are service units to ensure a smooth project handling, offering

### Pre-award support

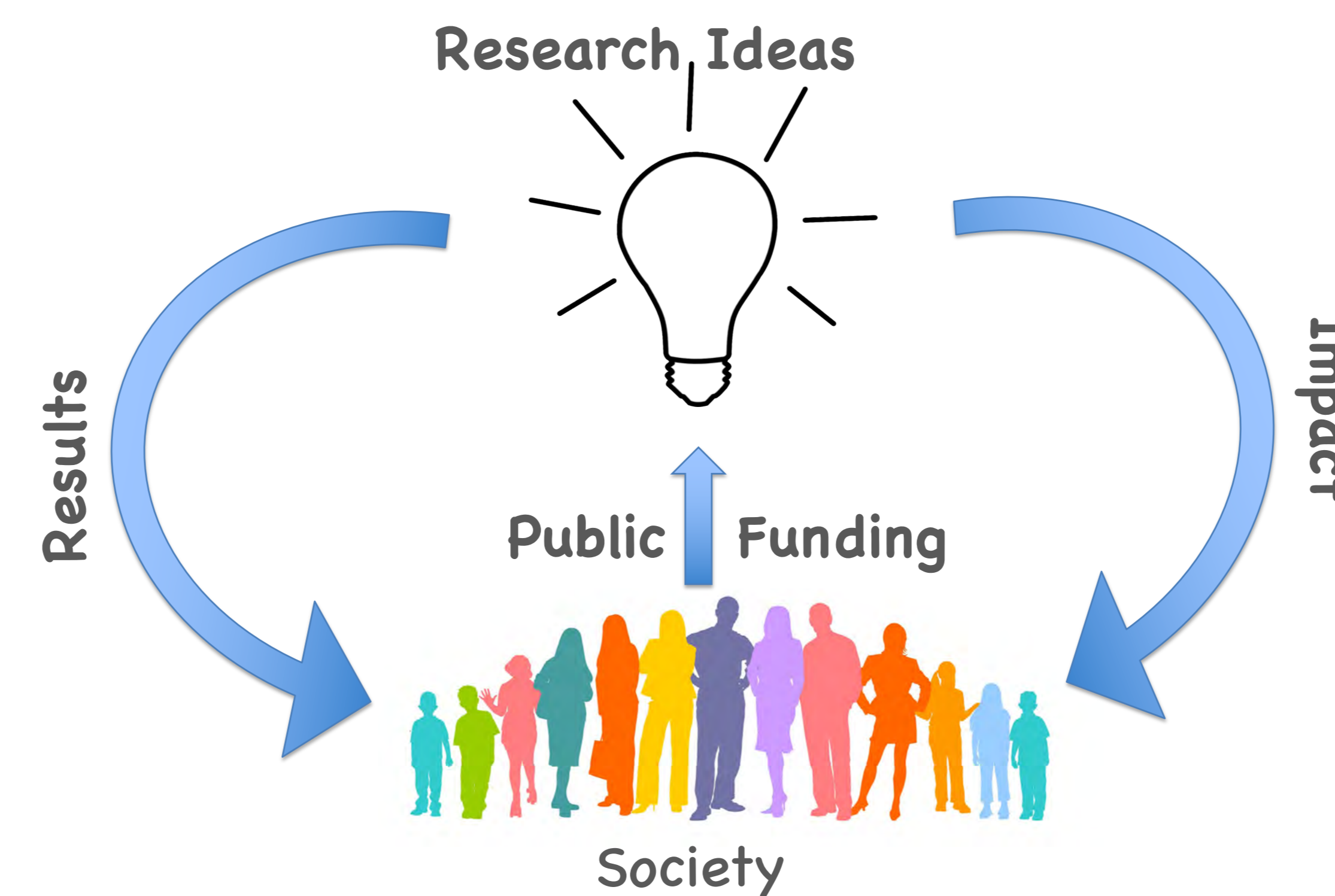
- Identification of funding opportunities
- Coaching, consortium building
- Risk assessment, data management
- Pre-conditions (legal, finances, ethics)
- Writing / editing support

### Post-award support

- Project management
- Contract amendments

### Output

- Management information
- Knowledge transfer

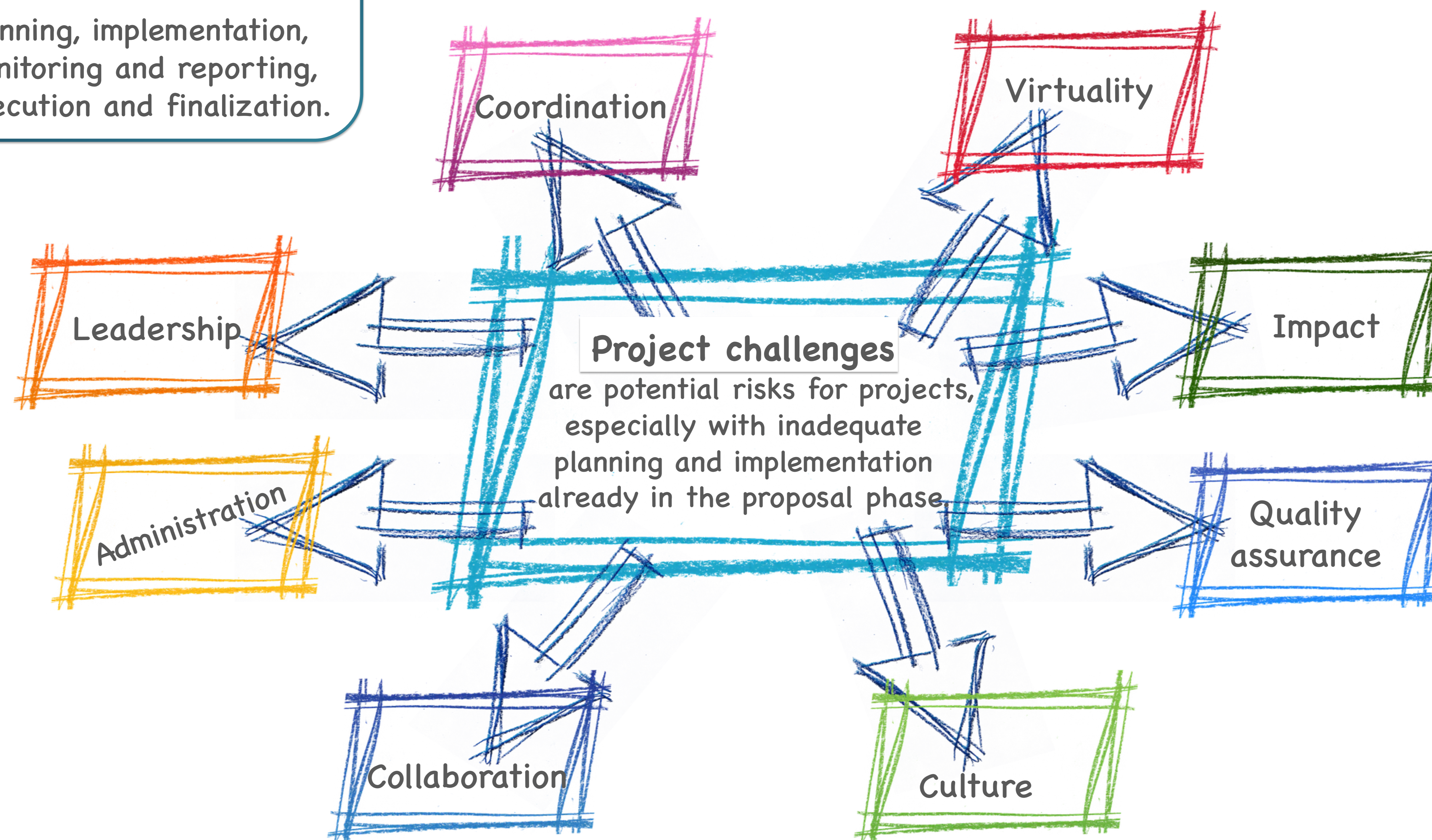


## PM at proposal stage

Scientists are forced to not only coordinate their scientific work but also think in advance about the administrative aspects and processes thereof.

Benefits of well thought-out and early implemented **PM** plans are

- enhanced quality of the proposal due to planning
- increase long-lasting scientific impact by ensuring effective and efficient knowledge transfer
- ensure an efficient / effective implementation



## PM - Implementation

- Think about the challenges and how to minimize risks.
- Think about how making these challenges beneficial for the project.
- Define/structure deliverables and milestones useful for the project, e.g. Project/Data/Risk Dissemination/Exploitation plan.
- Choose an effective/efficient governance structure.
- Implement hands-on experiences regarding the project challenges in the proposal.
- Discuss critical issues before submission with your consortium as problems will not suddenly disappear.
- Develop back-up strategies

Unfortunately, the attendance time for this poster has been scheduled at the same time as for my keynote in another session. Feel free to contact me in case of any questions regarding the subject of the poster: s.walter@uu.nl